

SENATE RESOLUTION 5 of the First Extraordinary Session  
By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor Special Agent John Denton on the occasion of his retirement from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those sterling citizens who in their years of work have performed with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Denton is one such outstanding person who has served with alacrity and acumen for 30 years as an agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

WHEREAS, before joining the FBI, John Denton fulfilled his patriotic duty by serving in the U.S. Marine Corps from June 15, 1964 to September 1, 1968, rising to the rank of Captain and heroically serving in Vietnam as a platoon commander; and

WHEREAS, a New York native, Special Agent Denton began his illustrious career with the FBI in 1969 after graduating from the 171<sup>st</sup> session of the FBI National Academy, where he was a class counselor; and

WHEREAS, his wide range of experiences have included the investigation of general criminal matters, including kidnapping, extortion, bank robbery, fraud, narcotics, fugitives, and bombings; and

WHEREAS, during the Cold War, John Denton astutely worked in the sensitive area of Soviet foreign counterintelligence, including expert service in the recruitment and handling of defectors, double agents, espionage matters, and terrorism; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Denton has been a valiant soldier in the war on drugs; he attended DEA school before working on various narcotics investigations in the areas of air smuggling, conspiracy, and buy/bust operations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Denton has received training in a number of specialized areas, but his uncommon ability to remain cool, calm, and collected in crisis situations has proven to be most helpful in the stressful handling of hostage negotiations; and

WHEREAS, he is a graduate of the prestigious Metropolitan Police Academy Hostage Program in London and currently serves as the Chief Hostage Negotiator for the Knoxville Division; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Denton has often been called upon to work in protracted situations in the U.S. and abroad as a member of the FBI's National Critical Incident Negotiation Team (CINT), and he has served with great distinction as a negotiator and/or tactical team member at such high profile situations as the Cuban Atlanta Prison siege in 1987, the 1991 Cuban Talledega Prison siege in Alabama, the Waco, Texas Branch Dividian siege in 1993, and the 1996 Freeman siege in Montana; and

WHEREAS, he was assigned to FBI offices in North Carolina and Washington D.C. before transferring to Knoxville, where he has served with great distinction for the past 19 years; and

WHEREAS, while stationed in Washington D.C., Mr. Denton honorably served the FBI as liaison with the U.S. Capitol Police, the National Gallery of Art, the U.S. Supreme Court Police, and the Library of Congress, in addition to handling liaison duties and investigations at the Smithsonian Institute; and

WHEREAS, upon reporting to Knoxville, Special Agent Denton served as the FBI's Foreign Liaison Attaché for the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, John Denton is currently a capable instructor in numerous FBI police training programs for East Tennessee; for the past 13 years, he has served with distinction as

the FBI's National Academy Coordinator, a prominent post that gives him the important responsibility of training 120 law enforcement personnel; and

WHEREAS, he has served as an instructor at numerous FBI in-service schools for Tennessee Law Enforcement personnel, in addition to presenting seminars to the Illinois Tactical Officers Association, Tennessee Chiefs Association, Indiana State Police, and a combined class of command-level officers in Manila and the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Denton has shared his incredible experiences and extensive knowledge with the civilian population as an adjunct faculty member at Walters State Community College, Cleveland State Community College, and East Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, a former member of the SWAT team, Mr. Denton has enjoyed a long, estimable career with the FBI that has earned him a number of commendations for his crucial role in various investigations and critical incidents; and

WHEREAS, John Denton exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a great Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, his many awards and accomplishments aside, John Denton is most appreciative of the love and support he receives from his adoring wife, Emily, and his two children, John and Julie; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Denton's qualities include the uncommon ability to motivate others to fully realize their potential, perhaps the most valuable of all skills; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we extend to Mr. John Denton our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and wish him continued success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.